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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

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SUBJECT:AGRICULTURAL EXCHANGES

REF: BUDAPEST 4057 (NOTAL); STATE 294773 (NOTAL); STATE
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1. HERA AND OLTEANU ALONG WITH ICHIM, AG REP IN NYC, AND
PETRESCU OF ROMANIAN EMBASSY CALLED ON CU/EE DECEMBER 7.
TWO MAIN SUBJECTS WERE DISCUSSED: SEVEN PROSPECTIVE
3-MONTH RESEARCH SCHOLARS FROM MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND
AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH IOWA STATE AND NEBRASKA.

2. OLTEANU ASKED ABOUT PROSPECTIVE PLACEMENT OF SEVEN
RESEARCH SCHOLAR CANDIDATES FROM MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE.
THESE ORIGINALLY FAILED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY TEST BUT ARE
NOW TAKING INTENSIVE ENGLISH COURSES AT MINISTRY TO TRY
AGAIN. OLTEANU STATED EMBASSY HAD AGREED TO USE OF TWO
TEN-MONTH GRANTS PREVIOUSLY ALLOTTED TO MINAG BY ROMANIAN
SIDE AS SEVEN THREE-MONTH GRANTS. THEREFORE MINAG CON-
SIDERED IT HAD SEVEN THREE-MONTH GRANTS GUARANTEED.
WE REPLIED THAT IT APPEARS NUMBER OF QUALIFIED CANDIDATES
WILL EXCEED NUMBER OF GRANTS AVAILABLE. IF THIS INDEED
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THE CASE, WE WOULD EXPECT THE ROMANIAN SIDE TO DECIDE WHO

WOULD GO. OLTEANU ACCEPTED THIS, INDICATING MINAG WAS

CERTAIN IT WOULD GET ITS SHARE.

3. HERA ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY POSSIBILITY DEPARTMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO FUND MORE THAN TWO PERSONS EACH WAY FOR IOWA AND NEBRASKA EXCHANGES IN 1977, AND WHETHER DEPARTMENT COULD FUND UP TO SIX EACH WAY FOR 1978. WE REPLIED NEGATIVELY FOR 1977, BUT INDICATED WE WOULD BE GLAD TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS IN 1978, DEPENDING ON EXPERIENCES WITH THE FIRST EXCHANGES AND ON OUR BUDGET SITUATION. HERA SAID THE ROMANIAN SIDE PLANS TO SEND A RESEARCHER IN SWINE BREEDING TO IOWA STATE IN MARCH OR APRIL, 1977 AND A RESEARCHER IN CORN BREEDING TO NEBRASKA IN JUNE.

4. THE ROMANIANS INDICATED OTHER UNIVERSITIES DURING THEIR TOUR EXPRESSED INTEREST IN EXCHANGES WITH ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY SCIENCES, PARTICULARLY BERKELEY AND UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AT ST. PAUL.

5. THE ROMANIANS ALSO PROVIDED DEPARTMENT WITH COPIES OF AGREEMENTS WITH IOWA STATE AND NEBRASKA. AGREEMENTS PROVIDE FOR EXCHANGE OF "UP TO THREE" RESEARCHERS ANNUALLY "FOR A MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS PERIOD". EXPENSES PROVIDED FOR AS FOLLOWS: FOR ROMANIANS ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT PAYS SALARY AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, IOWA STATE PAYS RESEARCH EXPENSES, DEPARTMENT PAYS TRAVEL WASHINGTON TO UNIVERSITY AND STIPEND. FOR AMERICANS ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT PAYS LIVING EXPENSES, RESEARCH EXPENSES, AND TRAVEL WITHIN ROMANIA, IOWA STATE PAYS SALARY, FRINGE BENEFITS AND "OVERHEAD EXPENSES", AND DEPARTMENT COVERS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL.

6. ALTHOUGH AGREEMENTS PROVIDE FOR EXCHANGE OF "UP TO THREE" RESEARCHERS ON EACH SIDE, BOTH ROMANIANS AND UNIVERSITIES UNDERSTAND DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED TO FUND ONLY ONE RESEARCHER EACH WAY FOR EACH UNIVERSITY IN FY77

7. ROMANIANS MET WITH USDA OFFICIALS DECEMBER 6 TO REVIEW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STATUS OF PROTOCOLS OF SEPTEMBER 1975 ON COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE. USDA IS SENDING DETAILED CABLE ON THESE DISCUSSIONS.

8. IN ADDITION HERA AND OLTEANU ATTENDED PART OF ANNUAL MEETING OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES IN HOUSTON NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 1. HERA MADE LARGE NUMBER

OF PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS AT MEETING INCLUDING NOBLE
KOEPP, RESEARCH DIRECTOR OF GROWERS SEED ASSOCIATION OF
LUBBOCK, TEXAS. KOEPP ARRANGED MEETING WITH HIS GENERAL

MANAGER AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BABCOCK
DURING DALLAS STOPOVER BETWEEN FLIGHTS. BABCOCK AND

ROMANIANS REPORTEDLY MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR US PURCHASE
OF ROMANIAN HYBRED SUNFLOWER SEED. ROBINSON

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